
Rainbow Analysis Talking Points

These are some ideas for how to get the discussion rolling at the beginning of this session. Ask the questions (or ones of your own) and see what their ideas, preconceptions, and level of knowledge are.

Questions to ask:

What do astronomers study?

How do astronomers learn anything about the above responses?

So, do we take pieces of stars and planets and put them under a microscope in our lab?

What do you think is the most distant astronomical object from which we have returned a sample?

- ◆ Right now it's a comet tail
- ◆ We also have collected samples from the moon
- ◆ Soon we will add Mars to this list

So since we don't collect pieces of distant objects, how do we learn about them?

- ◆ Lead a discussion about using light as a tool